

To overcome environmental threats posed by contamination at defense bases throughout the Mid-Atlantic states that are scheduled for realignment or closure, EPA Region III works closely with the Defense Department (DOD), state environmental representatives, and various stakeholders to develop effective cleanup solutions. Often situated in locations with high redevelopment potential, these sites may be contaminated with fuels, various hazardous substances and unexploded ordnance which must be addressed before the facility can be transferred and redeveloped.

For NPL, Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) and NPL/BRAC sites, EPA is the lead regulatory agency providing oversight. We use several tools to facilitate faster, more effective and less costly cleanup and reuse of these facilities. For NPL facilities, a Federal Facilities Agreement (FFA) is negotiated and signed by the facility, EPA, and sometimes the state. The FFA establishes the procedural framework and schedules for completing environmental work. In addition to the FFA, several federal facilities have incorporated alternate partnering techniques with EPA, the state, and other stakeholders to foster a team approach to effective cleanups.

Used for research, development and testing of rockets and ammunition for the U.S. Navy since 1942, the Allegany Ballistics Laboratory in Mineral County was found to be contaminated with a variety of explosive and solvent wastes. Thanks to a productive working relationship between EPA and the Navy, several noteworthy cleanup milestones have been reached: a protective landfill cover has been successfully installed; an extensive groundwater treatment



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From investigation to removal of contaminated soil, EPA fosters public participation every step of the way.

system is now up and running, and long-term monitoring at this 1,628-acre site is ongoing. These combined actions have dramatically reduced the potential exposure to hazardous contaminants at this valuable site surrounded by farmland and forests.

Community involvement is another vital aspect to cleanup progress. EPA in the Mid-Atlantic states fosters public participation by helping to establish restoration advisory boards (RABs) that bring community members, military officials and state and local regulators together to address cleanup issues. With these stakeholders working together, EPA believes recovery of the environment and communities affected by facilities like Allegany Ballistics Laboratory and WV Ordnance Works can be expedited.